



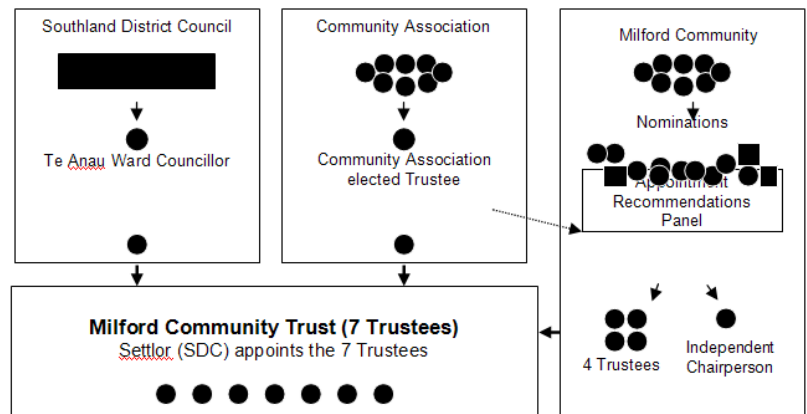
## New Community Elected Trustee

**On October 28, 2008 Allan Cosgrove was appointed to the Milford Community Trust following an election to replace Jason Steele who has left the Milford area.**

In a press release announcing the appointment Trustee Chairperson, Jane Taylor welcomed Mr Cosgrove to the Trust and looked forward to his participation and input into trust activities.

Mr Cosgrove won the election for the vacant position against two other nominees.

### Trustee Appointment Process



### MR ALLAN COSGROVE

Employed by Fiordland Lobster Company Ltd from 1998.

Resident Depot Manager in Milford Sound from June 2002.

### VIEWS

If Milford is to remain New Zealand's premiere tourism destination then infrastructural assets and management systems must change as the expectations of visitors and residents change.

The increasing number of self drive visitors to Milford Sound has put pressure on short term car parking, over night camping, increased road usage, ablution facilities and rubbish dumping.

As the newly elected representative of the Milford Community Association I look forward to working with fellow trustees and the community on these issues, and others that affect the community and stake holders.



## TRUST PROGRESS TO DATE

*Trust has met on some 10 occasions during the period April 2007 to October 2008.*

- A strategic Planning Workshop was held in November 2007, which included an opportunity to meet the Milford community.
- Trustees have had an on-site inspection of the infrastructure within Milford.

*Some of the issues and projects the Trust has been involved with include:*

- Application to the Charities Commission to treat the Trust as a Charitable Trust.
- Adoption of a Memorandum of Understanding between Department of Conservation and Southland District Council.
- Negotiation of an Independent Contract Agreement between the Department of Conservation and Milford community.
- Preparation of a transitional Statement of Intent to 30 June 2009.
- Facilitation of a comprehensive multi-party approach to preparation of an Emergency Response Plan for Milford. (ongoing)
- Lobbying in relation to the proposed Cleddau River Flood Protection and involvement in subsequent proposals for implementation.
- Representation on the Working Party for the implementation of the proposed Cleddau River Flood protection measures (ongoing).
- Representations to LTNZ in relation to footpath development between Milford Lodge and Milford Village.
- Participation in development of a new signage strategy in conjunction with Department of Conservation and the Milford Development Authority.
- Submissions to LTNZ regarding extension of the 50 Km/hr speed limit to the south of Milford Lodge.
- Erection of speed limit signs in Deepwater Basin.
- Waste Management Strategy investigations to promote environmentally sustainable waste management at Milford (ongoing).
- Relocation of the Bowen Memorial.
- Instigation of proposals for the policing of freedom camping in conjunction with Department of Conservation.
- Submissions to Mobil Oil regarding closure of the aviation fuel stop at Milford.
- Facilitation of the preparation of a concept plan for upgrading Deepwater Basin facilities in conjunction with the Department of Conservation (ongoing).
- Infrastructure Assets Overview following consultation with infrastructure providers with the object of exploring what is required to support development at Milford.
- Planning and funding application for a gymnasium at Milford (on-going)
- Preparation and adoption of a Communications Plan.
- Planned development of a website.
- Meetings with various stakeholders and Community Trust representatives to advance the objectives of the Trust.



Merry  
Christmas



*On behalf of the Trust I wish you and your loved ones a safe and merry Christmas.*

Jane Taylor  
Trust Chairperson

## TRUST WEBSITE

*The Trust is in the process of developing a website, which will be hosted by the Southland District Council.*

An address - [www.mct.org.nz](http://www.mct.org.nz) has been booked and work will begin on the design in the New Year, once the revamp of the Council's site is completed.

Members of the public will be able to access Trust minutes, Statements of Intent, Department of Conservation agreements, along with information on the establishment of the Trust and what its projects are. The site will be updated frequently.

At present the basic information on the Trust, including the Statement of Intent and Progress Report, can be found on the Council site, under Representation.

**JANE TAYLOR - Chairwoman**[janetaylor@petra.co.nz](mailto:janetaylor@petra.co.nz)

Jane is a barrister practising civil law and based in Queenstown.

She is also a director of the Research and Education Advanced Network Limited; the Legal Services Agency and Lakes Leisure Limited (a Queenstown Lakes District Council Council Controlled Organisation), along with being an independent hearings commissioner on resource consent matters for QLDC.

Jane was appointed as the independent chair of the Trust for her governance expertise, and her main role is to facilitate decision-making by the stakeholder trustees. Jane is passionate about the tremendous asset that is Milford Sound and is dedicated to doing her best to ensure its sustainability in the long term for the benefit of all New Zealanders.

**DIANE RIDLEY, JP**

Diane is the Southland District Council representative on the Trust.

She is a nurse in Te Anau and has lived in the Basin for 34 years. She believes Milford is a special place and the community who lives and works in there deserve support.

Diane believes the key issue for the Trust is actually getting the stopbank built but she also believes it is important the Trust helps to enable facilities that will benefit the community.

[ridleyd@woosh.co.nz](mailto:ridleyd@woosh.co.nz)**JASON STEELE**

Jason, Real Journeys branch manager in Milford Sound, is the community representative on the Trust.

He has lived in Fiordland since 2002 and is passionate about Milford Sound.

He is keen to make sure Milford is looked after, both environmentally and from a community point-of-view. Making sure the area has an adequate emergency response system is a key aim for Jason.

[jsteele@realjourneys.co.nz](mailto:jsteele@realjourneys.co.nz)**JOHN ROBSON**

John is the General Manager for Milford Sound Red Boats and has lived in Milford for eight and a half years out of the last 12.

He absolutely loves the place, has brought up his children there and wants to contribute to Milford moving forward.

There will be complications because Milford is such a complicated place but John believes it is essential that the community and visitors have good-quality facilities.

[john.robson@thlonline.com](mailto:john.robson@thlonline.com)**HELEN SANDS**

Helen was manager of the Milford Sound Lodge until the birth of her daughter earlier this year and now is a fulltime mum and part-time worker at the Lodge.

She has lived in Milford Sound for two years and loves living there with her family. Milford is a special place that needs careful consideration and

co-ordination and Helen hopes the Trust will ensure this happens. She believes the Trust needs to ensure there are effective lines of communication between it and the community and its main aim is to develop Milford sustainably and to improve road safety and footpaths for locals and visitors.

[helen@milfordlodge.com](mailto:helen@milfordlodge.com)**MICHAEL SCHUCK**

Michael is chief executive of the Fiordland Lobster Company and has spent a lot of his time in and around the Milford Sound area.

He has lived in Fiordland for nine years and is involved in the Trust as a representative of the fishing industry that has a long history with the Milford area.

Michael says the key thing the Trust needs to achieve is the sustainability of the community and the need to provide the infrastructure it needs.

[mike@flc.co.nz](mailto:mike@flc.co.nz)**ROGER WILSON**

Roger, a principal of WHK Cook Adam Ward Wilson, represents the Milford Sound Development Authority Ltd on the Trust.

He has been involved with MDA since its inception and is a director of Real Journeys Ltd and so has a significant interest in the area.

Roger believes the key issue for the Trust is to provide co-ordinated planning for the Milford community.

[roger.wilson@whkgroup.co.nz](mailto:roger.wilson@whkgroup.co.nz)



## TEAM TO BE FORMED

*A Milford Sound Response Team is to be formed under a proposal for emergency services co-ordination.*

The Milford Community Trust received a report from Southland District Council area engineer Graham Jones, civil defence officer Tom Shaw and Southern Rural Fire Authority principal fire officer Mike Grant suggesting a response team be established under the rural fire authority.

The response team would have a team controller, responsible for local co-ordination and residents with any expertise in emergency areas would be appointed crew leaders.

Formal training would be done by each emergency agency and equipment provided.

A pager system linked into the national 111 control room is also proposed.

The report said most responses now were organised on a company basis, with the need there for better co-ordination.

The Trust agreed to approve the concept and direction of the proposal.



## BACKGROUND OF TRUST

*The Milford Community Trust was established in 2006 to protect and maintain the iconic Milford Sound area.*

The establishment of a Trust to oversee the development of infrastructure and provision of essential services for Milford has been many years in the making, growing from the original concepts of the Milford Planning Group.

The Southland District Council, with the support of the Department of Conservation and Environment Southland, approved the establishment of the Trust, which is a Council Controlled Organisation, and the first of its kind in a National Park.

The seven members of the Trust are: Chair Jane Taylor, Tourism Holdings Limited (THL) Southern Regional Manager John Robson, Fiordland Lobster Company Chief Executive Michael Schuck, Milford Sound Lodge Manager Helen Sands, Ward Wilson Chartered Accountants Principal Roger Wilson, Real Journeys branch manager and community representative Jason Steele and Te Anau Ward Councillor Diane Ridley.

Ms Taylor, a Queenstown lawyer, was appointed to the position of the independent chair for the trust for a four year term.

To fit with the terms of the trust deed the initial terms of Mrs Sands and Mr Wilson shall be for two years, while Mr Robson and Mr Schuck will be appointed for a four-year term. The sitting Te Anau Councillor is a trustee by right. The Trust will meet approximately every six weeks as it works towards meeting its objectives, with its first meeting held on April 18 last year. Trustees will set their own budgets and plans for the years ahead.

## In brief...

### WEATHER STATION IN SOUND

New weather reporting equipment has been installed in Milford Sound. The remote weather station will give information to the tourist boat operators about the conditions in the sound, area engineer Graham Jones said.

“High winds in the sound can often be a problem and the station lets the operators check conditions before setting sail or as they sail out,” he said. The station will improve passenger and boat safety.

### SPEED RESTRICTION SIGN ERECTED

Twenty kilometre a hour signs have been erected in the Deepwater Basin area.

The speed restrictions at the entrances to the Cleddau delta village area are needed because the village roads are narrow and wind between clumps of bush, area engineer Graham Jones said.

“There are a lot of pedestrian movements around the village so the signs will improve safety,” he said. The signs were installed by the Department of Conservation in March and will be policed by the managers of the companies with accommodation in the area.

### NEW AND IMPROVED LOOKOUT TRACK

Department of Conservation staff have made considerable improvements to the walkway known as the Lookout Track, which runs behind the hotel.

It now starts at Sutherland’s Grave and continues for 40 metres beyond the existing lookout area. Spectacular views into the Arthur Valley can now be seen. The access way to the old track is now closed.

### NEW WALKWAY

Work on the walkway from Milford Lodge to Deep Water Basin is due to commence in the last week of June.

This work should be complete by early July and will allow pedestrians to walk from the Lodge into Freshwater Basin without having to use the highway.